REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 36 and 41.

Claims 1-50 are pending in the application, with claims 1, 13, 22, 25, 28, 31, 33, and 38 being independent. Claims 36, 40, and 41 have been amended to correct typographical and clerical errors. Claims 33 and 38 have been amended to provide proper antecedent basis.

Independent claims 1, 13, 22, 25, 28, 31, 33, and 38 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,740,252 (Minor). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 1 recites, among other things, "appending the encrypted profile information to the data request as originally intercepted to create an augmented data request; and sending the augmented data request to the target server." Independent claims 22, 28, 33, and 38 recite similar elements in the form of a computer program, a proxy server, a method, and a system, respectively. It is respectfully submitted that Minor does not describe or suggest these elements of independent claims 1, 22, 28, 33, and 38.

Minor describes a system that includes a browser executing on an end-user computer 30, an entry website 32A, and a remote website 34A. The Examiner has equated the recited client computer with the end-user computer 30, the recited proxy server with the entry website 32A, and the recited target server and information server with remote website 34A.

In Minor, the browser on end-user computer 30 receives a webpage from entry website 32A. Minor, col. 3, lines 40-41; col. 4, line 29. When the user activates a hyperlink in the webpage, a request is sent by the browser on the end-user computer to the entry website 32A. Minor, col. 7, lines 3-10. In response to this request, entry website 32A encrypts demographic information about the end-user and sends to the browser a redirect response that includes the address of a remote website 34A and the encrypted demographic information. Minor, col. 7, lines 11-30. The redirect response causes the browser to send a new request that includes the demographic information to the remote website 34A. Minor, col. 7, lines 31-37.

In particular, in response to the request from the browser, a command with the following form is sent from the entry website 32A to the browser to cause the redirect: "Location:http://www.isn.com/new-user?K(D)." Minor, col. 7, lines 25-30. Referring to the HTTP 1.0 specification, section 10.11 (attached as appendix A and available at http://www.w3.org/Protocols/HTTP/1.0/draft-ietf-http-spec.html), the "Location:" portion of this command is a *response* header. See also Schwartz, "Redirecting browser to URL," comp.infosystems.www.authoring.cgi, posted September 4, 1995, attached as Appendix B. Thus, entry website 32A sends a response to the browser as a result of the original request. The response includes the "Location:" header to instruct the browser to generate a new request to the resource located at "http://www.isn.com/new-user?K(D)."

Accordingly, the entry website 32A does not *append* the encrypted demographic information to the *request as originally intercepted* by the entry website 32A to create an augmented request, nor does it send such an augmented request to a remote website 34A. Instead, the entry website 32A *generates a redirect response* that is sent back to the browser with demographic information. It is then incumbent upon the browser to send a new request to the remote website 34A.

Thus, Minar fails to create an argumental request that is sent or otherwise forwarded to a target server for processing. Rather, the target server received a new request that is created and sent by the browser, which request is not intercepted or supplemental by appearing data, as claimed. Moreover, described above, the entry website 32A sends a redirect response to a request received from the browser executing on end-user computer 30, causing the browser to send a new request with encrypted demographic information to remote website 34A. Remote website 34A receives a new request from the browser with encrypted demographic information, not the request as originally received by the entry website 32A with appended demographic information.

Similarly, independent claim 13 recites, among other things, "receiving an augmented data request, wherein the augmented data request includes encrypted user profile information appended to a data request as originally intercepted by a proxy server." Independent claims 25,

and 31 recite similar elements in the form of a computer program and an information server, respectively. It is respectfully submitted that Minor also does not describe or suggest these elements of independent claims 13, 25, and 31.

Accordingly, independent claims 1, 13, 22, 25, 28, 31, 33, and 38, and those claims that depend from them, are allowable over Minor at least for the above reasons. Further, U.S. Patent Application 2001/0039587 A1 and U.S. Patent No. 5,245,656 (cited in combination with Minor against claims dependent on claims 1, 13, 22, 25, 28, 31, 33, and 38) do not disclose or suggest the above discussed features, nor does the Examiner cite them for this reason. As such, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1-35, 37-40, and 42-50.

No fees are believed to be due at this time. However, please apply any charges or credits as necessary to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 5/24/2004

W. Karl Renner
Reg. No. 41,265

Fish & Richardson P.C.
1425 K Street, N.W.
11th Floor
Washington, DC 20005-3500
Telephone: (202) 783-5070
Facsimile: (202) 783-2331

40207628.doc